PAUL KORETZ Forty-second Assembly District



proudly representing the communities of West Hollywood, Beverly Hills, Los Angeles, Century City, Westwood, Bel Air, Brentwood, West Los Angeles, Hollywood, Hancock Park, Universal City, Studio City, and Sherman Oaks

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KORETZ APPLAUDS SIGNING OF BILL TURNING OVER TROUBLED ROADWAY TO CITY OF L.A.

Hollywood Assemblyman Commends Locals for their Leadership

Assemblyman Paul Koretz (D-West Hollywood) today extended his congratulations to the City of Los Angeles and the Hollywood community for their success in the passage of Assembly Bill 3047, which Governor Schwarzenegger signed into law on Tuesday.

The measure by the Assembly Transportation Committee authorizes the relinquishment of Highland Avenue in Hollywood, a portion of State Highway 170, from the control of the State of California to the City of Los Angeles. Assemblyman Koretz, who represents portions of the Hollywood community and Highland Avenue, encouraged the committee to introduce the measure and strongly supported it throughout the process.

The state has been gradually relinquishing state highways to local governments, a process that must be authorized through legislation and then approved by the California Transportation Commission. The City of Los Angeles sought the opportunity to take possession of this portion of Highland Avenue in order to make significant traffic flow and safety improvements, particularly to the poorly designed and often crammed intersection of Highland and Franklin Avenues.

"This intersection is one of the worst in Los Angeles County and is desperately in need of improvement," said Assemblyman Koretz. "The City of L.A. and a number of community organizations have worked for years to improve this troubled intersection, and their tireless efforts are finally going to pay off. I commend them for their leadership. I would also like to thank Assemblymember Jenny Oropeza, the chair of the committee, for assisting with this effort.

"The relinquishment of Highland Avenue will finally give local transportation planners and residents the opportunity to tackle these challenging traffic issues without having to deal with the state bureaucracy," concluded Koretz

Cal Trans is currently negotiating a fair and reasonable one-time payment to the City of Los Angeles to bring the road up to minimum state standards. Upon relinquishment, the state would realize long-term savings from no longer having to maintain the roadway.

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